

C O N F I D E N T I A L

4 August 1983
MJN 8319

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service
THROUGH: Chief, Operations Group
SUBJECT: Monthly Report--Jordan Bureau--July 1983

I. GENERAL

The latter half of the month brought a sharp upturn in the level of fighting in the nearly 3-year-old Iran-Iraq war, which had continued at a desultory pace for the past several weeks. On 23 July Iran launched another offensive against Iraq, this time in the Haj Umran area of northern Iraq, a mountainous Kurdish area. Iraqi media made a point of mentioning Kurdish participation in the fighting alongside Iraqi forces. The Iraqis claimed to have defeated the offensive a few days later. Iran launched yet another offensive on 30 July in the Mehran area, but the Iraqis, who had been expecting an attack in the central sector, claimed to have crushed that offensive as well. []

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The rebellion among Fatah dissidents in Lebanon, which erupted in May, continued throughout the month with numerous reports of fighting between those loyal to PLO chairman Yasir 'Arafat and the dissidents. Syrian backing for the Fatah dissidents and for opposition elements within Lebanon, as well as reportage on mediation efforts within the Arab world, generated a large volume of copy throughout the month. []

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On 26 July masked gunmen burst into the Islamic College in the already tense West Bank town of Hebron. Three Arab students were killed and 33 others wounded in the machinegun and grenade attack. The reaction in the occupied West Bank was immediate and violent, and a UN Security Council debate on the situation was called for by the Arabs. The possibility of local reaction to the expected U.S. veto of any Security Council resolution on the West Bank raised concerns for the security of the Embassy and its personnel in Amman. While the enhanced security remains in effect, there have not been any incidents in Amman to date.

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II. OPERATIONS

A. Lateral Services

Bureau transcripts of Jordan radio reporting on the Hebron incident were of particular interest to the Embassy following a complaint from Tel Aviv that the radio was "embellishing" its reports with allegations of Israeli government and IDF support for the gunmen. A protest to Jordan Radio was considered, but the idea was dropped when a subsequent broadcast report indicated that this was the official Jordanian government line, as enunciated by Jordan's representative to the United Nations. []

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B. Technical

The Bureau received a new Sony television receiver/monitor during the month. A VCR is being shipped from London Bureau to complete the set, which will be used to establish a second video monitoring position to resolve occasional scheduling conflicts with the existing position. []

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III. ADMINISTRATION

Personnel

1. Senior monitor [] and family departed Amman on PCS transfer to Nicosia Bureau on 14 July. []

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2. Bureau secretary [] went on LWOP effective 21 July to accompany her husband on PCS transfer. She is replaced by [] who entered on duty on 10 July. []

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3. Associate editor [] received a PSI on 10 July. []

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4. Three monitor candidates were tested during the month to fill the vacancy left by the departure of senior monitor []. The results of the tests were substantially below those of the bureau's most recent recruits. []

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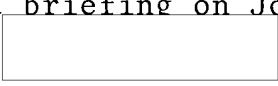
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IV. VISITS

To the Bureau

Mr. Ted Kattouf, newly assigned deputy principal officer at the U.S. Interest Section, Baghdad, for a briefing on Jordan Bureau operations en route to his new post. 

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Chief, Jordan Bureau

ATT: Production Report

C O N F I D E N T I A L

JORDAN BUREAU PRODUCTION REPORT FOR JULY 1983

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH: 241,510
 TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH: 95,850
 TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH: 761

II. INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE: BROAD- PRESS PUBLI-
 CASTS AGENCIES CATIONS
 (MINUTES OR ISSUES PER WEEK) 6510 19455 68

III. OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES:

(PUBLISHABLE WORDS PER MONTH)

BAHRAIN
 MANAMA WAKH IN
 ARABIC 0
 CLANDESTINE (IRAN AND IRAQ)
 (CLANDESTINE) VOICE OF IRAQI KURDISTAN IN
 ARABIC 0
 (CLANDESTINE) VOICE OF IRAQI REVOLUTION IN
 ARABIC 0
 FRANCE
 PARIS RADIO MONTE CARLO IN
 ARABIC 32010
 PARIS AL-MUSTAQBAL IN
 ARABIC 4060
 PARIS AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI IN
 ARABIC 8780
 IRAQ
 BAGHDAD VOICE OF THE MASSES IN
 ARABIC 11420
 BAGHDAD VOICE OF PLO IN
 ARABIC 42810
 BAGHDAD DOMESTIC SERVICE IN
 ARABIC 7920
 BAGHDAD INA IN
 ARABIC 24800
 BAGHDAD INA IN
 ENGLISH 370
 BAGHDAD AL-JUMHURIYAH IN
 ARABIC 0
 BAGHDAD ATH-THAWRAH IN
 ARABIC 0
 ISRAEL
 JERUSALEM IN
 ARABIC TO THE ARAB WORLD 0
 JERUSALEM AL-FAR IN
 ARABIC 470
 JERUSALEM AL-MITHAQ IN
 ARABIC 0
 JERUSALEM AL-BUDS IN
 ARABIC 300
 JERUSALEM ASH-SHA'B IN
 ARABIC 0
 JERUSALEM AT-TALI'AH IN
 ARABIC 0
 JORDAN
 AMMAN DOMESTIC SERVICE IN 15000
 AMMAN DOMESTIC TELEVISION SERVICE IN
 ARABIC 1220
 AMMAN DOMESTIC TELEVISION SERVICE IN
 ENGLISH 0
 AMMAN PETRA-JNA IN
 ARABIC 1190
 AMMAN AD-DUSTUR IN
 ARABIC 3500
 AMMAN AKHBAR AL-USBU' IN
 ARABIC 130
 AMMAN AR-RAY'Y IN
 ARABIC 2280
 AMMAN JERUSALEM STAR IN
 ENGLISH 0
 AMMAN JORDAN TIMES IN
 ENGLISH 2520
 AMMAN SANT ASH-SHA'B IN
 ARABIC 7800
 LEBANON
 MARJ 'UYUN LEBANON VOICE OF HOPE IN
 ARABIC 4040
 MARJ 'UYUN LEBANON VOICE OF HOPE IN
 ENGLISH 210
 SUDAN
 KHARTOUM SUNA IN
 ARABIC 8710
 KHARTOUM SUNA IN
 ENGLISH 4060
 SYRIA
 DAMASCUS DOMESTIC SERVICE IN 38800
 ARABIC 4440
 DAMASCUS DOMESTIC TELEVISION SERVICE IN
 ARABIC 11620
 UNITED KINGDOM
 LONDON REUTER IN
 ENGLISH 1380